

have their future mortgaged to pay for a party they never participated in?

MEDIA SHOULD PROVIDE BALANCED ELECTION COVERAGE

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is not easy to find a news magazine without either Senator OBAMA on the cover or gratuitous attacks on Senator MCCAIN and Governor Palin in its articles. For example, Newsweek magazine this week published an article suggesting that Governor Palin's faith in God makes her less qualified to be Vice President. That is an amazing lack of grace.

This marks the latest shot fired in the media's all-out assault on Governor Palin's campaign to become America's first woman Vice President. No wonder Americans, by a 10-to-1 margin, believe the media are trying to hurt Governor Palin, according to a Rasmussen poll.

Newsweek is the same magazine that has featured Senator OBAMA on its cover six times this year, compared to only three times for Senator MCCAIN.

Americans need balanced coverage during this election, and should demand that the media provide it.

SECRETARY PAULSON'S SOLUTION TO THE URGENT FINANCIAL CRI- SIS IS WRONG

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, Secretary Paulson's solution to the urgent financial crisis is wrong. The problem is that the financial institutions have been trading securities whose value they don't know and can't know because bad mortgages are mixed in with good mortgages in indeterminate amounts.

For any problem, you should go to the root in order to solve it. The root here is that the bad mortgages mixed with the good mortgages have poisoned the financial papers. In buying those papers, the taxpayers won't know whether they are getting any value for their dollar, and neither Paulson nor the market will be able to determine the value. So go to the root. Repair the bad mortgages. It will help Wall Street and Main Street. It will restore confidence, liquidity and solvency.

There is an antecedent. The Homeowners Loan Corporation in the 1930s dealt with a crisis of bad mortgages, put up \$70 billion in today's dollars and rescued 1 million homeowners. It worked.

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LOWERING GAS PRICES, CREATING JOBS

(Mr. BOUSTANY asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, as I travel across my district, helping with hurricane recovery, I am proud of the can-do spirit of the people of southwest Louisiana. Hurricanes Gustav and Ike caused amazing damage throughout my area, but neighbors are helping neighbors.

These two storms also highlight the importance of American energy production in the Gulf of Mexico. High gas prices are affecting our food prices, the economy in general, and people's pocketbooks directly.

Throughout August, I joined my fellow House Republicans in urging Speaker PELOSI to bring Congress back in session to help American families struggling with the dramatically high gas prices, but she refused.

Now we can act. We can increase and diversify our energy supply, become less dependent on foreign sources of oil and create good high-paying American jobs. Many of these energy jobs are going overseas, but we can keep them right here in America.

By harnessing all of America's vast resources, we can help Americans in the short term and into the future. Let's do the responsible thing. Let's open parts of our deepwater coasts for energy exploration and pass a comprehensive energy bill. Let's begin to reduce the price at the pump.

WHILE REPUBLICANS WANT MORE OF THE SAME, DEMOCRATS ARE WORKING TOWARD CHANGE

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, there is a reason that the American people are demanding real change this year. Nearly 8 years ago, this administration inherited a Nation that was well respected abroad, fiscally sound and economically stable.

Today, thanks to misguided policies and arrogance, President Bush has left our Nation's security in a more precarious and dangerous position. On the budget front, President Bush and congressional Republicans have turned a projected 10-year budget surplus of \$5.6 trillion into a projected 10-year deficit of \$3.4 trillion.

On the economic side, home foreclosures are at record highs, wages are stagnant. More than 600,000 jobs have been lost this year alone, and Wall Street is in crisis thanks to this administration looking the other way for 8 years.

The administration is now looking for a \$700 billion recovery package with absolutely no strings attached. While they are trying to recast themselves as the agents of change, we know better. They have built a record of failure over the last 8 years, and America cannot afford more of the same.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to not engage in personalities toward the President or the Vice President.

HELPING HOME MEAL DELIVERY VOLUNTEERS

(Mr. LATTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I had the pleasure of meeting with home delivery volunteers in the Fifth Congressional District on Monday to discuss H.R. 6675, a bill I introduced in July.

H.R. 6675 would increase the standard deduction for home meal delivery volunteers from the current rate of 14 cents per mile to 58.5 cents per mile. Home meal delivery programs across the country are losing volunteers as the cost of gasoline continues to rise.

This legislation will help retain and recruit additional volunteers to carry out this important work. For those who receive home delivered meals, these volunteers serve an important role in delivering meals that provide needed nourishment, in addition to boosting the morale and spirit of those individuals.

As we continue to debate the comprehensive energy reform policy in Congress, we must be aware of the important contributions volunteers have on our great country. Volunteer firefighters, civic group leaders, and others who give so much of their time and resources are what make our community and our country a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

MCCAIN DEREGULATION AGENDA WOULD BE DISASTROUS FOR MIDDLE CLASS AMERICANS

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, as Americans everywhere are feeling the effect of President Bush's failed economic policies, Senator JOHN MCCAIN has once again demonstrated that if he wins in November, he will not only continue those same failed policies, but he will expand them to the health care industry.

Just last month, Senator MCCAIN, in an opinion that he wrote, said that the health insurance market should be run more like the banking industry has been during the last decade. Can you imagine that?

As you can imagine, this would be a disaster for American families. By creating a deregulated national marketplace, health insurance companies could sell plans that lack even the most basic consumer protections, creating high out-of-pocket expenses and allowing insurance companies to break promises to pay medical bills.